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TELEPHONE
3-3637

December 8, 1956

Mr. David Baugh, Chairman
Committee of Housing NAACP
Vancouver, Washington

Re: Committee on Social Action,
Council of Churches

Dear Mr. Baugh:

The committee for Social Action of the Council of Churches has been referred your communication dated October 28, 1956, appealing for help in reference to housing discrimation in Vancouver.

The Social Action Committee met on November 23, and took the following action.

The committee voted to study racial discrimation in housing in Vancouver, and by resolution, directed me as secretary to write to the NAACP requesting further information and detailed explanation of certain portions of the problem.

The committee specifically wishes an explanation of the whereas clause which appears on page 1 of the letter, as to the intent of the drafters of the resolution, which portion reads as follows:

> Whereas: although magnificent planning is being done for growth development of our city in terms of physical use of land, streets, and public utilities in connection with accelerated building of new residential areas, this progress does not include the Negro citizens,

The committee wants to know in what respect the progress as referred to does not include Negro citizens, whether it is inferred that the NAACP feels the problem to be cost of housing rather than discrimation in housing, and in addition whether or not the NAACP is primarily interested in low cost housing rather than the other problem of discrimation in housing as a whole.

In addition, the committee voted to request further information from your organization on the following points:

1. The committee wants specific instances if available of discrimation as known to you at this time.

2. They further wish a list of all of the 19 families referred to in the letter who have been lost to the city of Vancouver, and their addresses if known. Any facts or circumstances surrounding their move from the area is also desired.

3. The committee also would like further information as to any known practices by realtors, banking institutions, etc., concerning discrimation.

4. Also, the committee would appreciate any information you may have concerning the number of Negro families yet remaining in the heights.

Purpose of the information of course is to form the basis for further study of the situation. In connection with this, two of your committee are cordially invited to attend their next committee meeting, which will be held at Allen Hall, next to the East Vancouver Methodist Church, on January 11, 1956 at 8:00 p.m..

If your committee should desire further information, please feel free to contact either myself or Reverend Morgan.

With best personal wishes.

Yours truly,

John E. Morse

JEM:kj